

LUNENBURG PLANNING BOARD TOWN OF LUNENBURG

Emerick R. Bakaysa, Chair
Joanna L. Bilotta-Simeone, Vice-Chair
Thomas W. Bodkin, Jr., Clk.
Robert J. Saiia, Mbr.
Nathan J. Lockwood, Mbr.
Marion M. Benson, Planning Director



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Minutes
Public Hearing
Horizon Christian Fellowship, 2005 Massachusetts Avenue
November 21, 2011

Meeting Posted: Yes

Time: 7:31 PM

Place: Town Hall, 17 Main Street, Lunenburg, MA 01462

Present: Emerick R. Bakaysa, Chair, Joanna L. Bilotta-Simeone, Vice Chair, Robert J. Saiia, Thomas W. Bodkin, Jr., Nathan J. Lockwood, Marion M. Benson, Planning Director

Motion, Ms. Bilotta-Simeone to open the Public Hearing, Second, Mr. Saiia, Motion passed. Chair read legal notice advertised in the Sentinel & Enterprise, November 7 and November 14, 2011. The Public Hearing was to hear and discuss an application for a Special Permit under Section 4.2.3.3. of the Protective Bylaw of the Town of Lunenburg, and Rules and Regulations of the Lunenburg Planning Board for Telecommunication and Cellular Towers, for antenna installation on existing tower located at 2005 Massachusetts Avenue and associated broadcast transmitter equipment. Applicant is Horizon Christian Fellowship, 356 Broad Street, Fitchburg, MA 01420. Tower Owner is American Tower, L.P., 10 Presidential Way, Woburn, MA 01801. Property Owner is Peter Knox, Trustee, Castle Trust, 2005 Massachusetts Avenue, Lunenburg, MA.

The Applicant was represented by Pastor George Small. The church has been operating an AM radio station in Fitchburg for the past 17 years, and is now commencing building an FM station in New England. They have received a 91.7 License which is licensed to the Town of Lunenburg and have received Federal Communications Commission (FCC) FM Broadcast Station Construction Permit and must be on-air by January 8, 2012. The Applicant wishes to install three antennas on the existing tower located at 2005 Massachusetts Avenue. They have a Letter of Authorization from tower owner American Tower L.P. for installation of antennas and related telecommunications equipment on the existing tower.

Reviewing Engineer Steve Marsden presented his report, noting that under the Town's Telecommunication Bylaw, both telecommunications providers and broadcast antennas are allowed on the same tower. Under the Bylaw any change to the tower must come before the Planning Board for a Special Permit. The majority of the items listed in the Bylaw were submitted with the application of the original monopole. This is just the addition of an antenna on the monopole.

The Applicant supplied the Board with the completed FCC Construction Permit.

Mr. Marsden brought to the attention of the Board that he has not recently received any yearly maintenance/structural/insurance reports/bonds on the monopole from American Tower. Office to investigate. (This does not affect the Applicant's application.)

David Rodgers, 82 Highland Street- spoke in support of the Applicant.

Mss. Bilotta-Simeone made Motion to approve the Special Permit, Mr. Saiia, Second, all aye.

Hearing closed 7:55 PM.

Visual and audio recording on file in Planning Office.